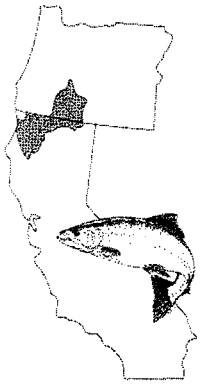
Agenda Item E.4.b
Supplemental KFMC Report
April 2006



Klamath Fishery Management Council

Working to Restore Anadromous Fish in the Klamath River Basin

Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office
1829 South Oregon Street
Tel: (530) 842-5763 Fax: (530) 842-4517

April 5, 2006

California Commercial Salmon Fishing Industry

California Department of Fish and Game

California Offshore Sport Fishery

Hoopa Valley Tribe

Klamath In-River Sport Fishery

National Marine Fisheries Service

Non-Hoopa Indians Representative

Oregon Commercial Salmon Fishing Industry

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Pacific Fishery Management Council

U.S. Department of the Interior

Don Hansen, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Subject: Contributions of the Klamath Act to Fisheries Management

Dear Mr. Hansen:

Per your request, I am writing to provide information on the contributions to management of Klamath River stocks provided by the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Restoration Program, and the entities established under the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Restoration Act (Klamath Act, or Act).

Congress passed the Klamath Act in 1986, including authorization of $21,000,000 to be appropriated over twenty years to restore the anadromous fish populations of the Klamath River Basin. The Act directed the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a fisheries restoration program, and established two federal advisory committees to assist in implementing it: the Klamath Fishery Management Council (KFMC) and the Klamath River Basin Fisheries Task Force (Task Force). The lead office for implementation of the Act is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Yreka, California.

The Act directed the KFMC to make recommendations to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), California Fish and Game Commission, Oregon Department of Fish Wildlife, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for non-Hoopa Indians. The Act specifies representation from 11 entities concerned with harvest of Klamath River salmon. These include the U.S. Departments of Interior and Commerce, the PFMC, the States of Oregon and California, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, Non-Hoopa Indians (the seat now occupied by the Yurok Tribe), ocean commercial fishers and recreational fishers, and in-river recreational fishers. The Act also directed the KFMC to establish a comprehensive long-term plan for the management of in-river and ocean harvests affecting Klamath

River Basin anadromous fish, with the goal of restoring their populations to optimum levels. To achieve these directions, the KFMC has met four times per year, annually made specific recommendations to the PFMC, and completed a *Long-Term Plan for Management of Anadromous Fish Populations of the Klamath River Basin* in 1992.

In addition to the key role in providing recommendations to the PFMC, the KFMC has helped resolve harvest allocation issues involving Klamath River salmon, and has provided a consistent public forum for salmon harvest issues. The KFMC has made all of its decisions by consensus.

The KFMC receives biological and statistical expertise from its Klamath River Technical Advisory Team (KRTAT). The entities represented on the KFMC provide the personnel that make up the KRTAT. Every year the KRTAT assembles data and completes analyses used by the PFMC and state and Tribal fisheries management agencies to set fishing seasons. These products include the Klamath fall Chinook stock abundance forecasts, and the modeling of impacts of proposed fishing regulations on Klamath River fall Chinook. These analyses depend upon data collected in fisheries monitoring efforts funded by the Klamath Act through the Task Force, as discussed in more detail below.

The Klamath Act's direction to the Task Force to carry out the restoration program gave the Task Force a somewhat broader mission than that of the KFMC. The Task Force has 16 members, including the U.S. Departments of Interior, Commerce, and Agriculture; the States of California and Oregon; four California Counties and one Oregon County, four tribes (Yurok, Hoopa, Karuk, and Klamath), and one representative each from the commercial fishing industry and the in-river sport fishing community. The Task Force and the Fish and Wildlife Service have established processes for annually soliciting, evaluating, and funding proposals for expenditures of the Klamath Act funds. Like the KFMC, all Task Force decisions are made by consensus.

Funding approved by the Task Force has included fish stock enhancements, public outreach and education, studies of fish biology and disease, watershed restoration planning, on-the-ground habitat restoration, and on-going fisheries monitoring. In total, these projects have amounted to about $11.2 million over the 20-year program. In the early years of the program, the Klamath Act funds supported a large fraction of the habitat restoration projects accomplished in the middle and lower basin and tributaries. In recent years, Klamath Act funds have been especially important in maintaining staff capacity among watershed groups developing projects and community support, and competing for other larger sources of restoration funding.

Over the past 20 years, an average of approximately $75,000 per year has been spent to support the functions of the KFMC and the KRTAT, and a similar amount has been expended to support the functions of the Task Force and its technical group. These expenditures have constituted about 14 percent of the total Klamath Act expenditures. Approximately 26 percent of the total expenditures have gone to the support of the Yreka

Fish and Wildlife Office, which provides budgeting, contracting, environmental compliance, and technical assistance to all aspects of the program.

Klamath Act funds have been especially important in supporting continuing monitoring studies that supply basic information for use in the "Mega table" data base used in the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model, and for other monitoring uses. In the past five years, about $662,000 of Klamath Act funds have been spent on monitoring that provides data used in the salmon management process, such as spawning surveys and age composition analyses; and another $171,000 was spent on other important monitoring such as juvenile outmigrant trapping. About $252,200 has been spent on research on fish disease in the Klamath River below Iron Gate Dam; much of this was recently diverted from restoration projects in response to increasing concern about the disease issue. Several tables are attached that supply more detail regarding expenditures on monitoring, planning, and habitat restoration activities

The Klamath Act has not been reauthorized as of this time, and funding for the KFMC, Task Force, and projects is scheduled to expire September 30, 2006. In the absence of Klamath Act funding, we are uncertain regarding funding of critical monitoring activities in the Klamath River during the fall of 2006 and beyond.

The President's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2007 contains $859,000 for continuation of Klamath Act activities. Appropriation by Congress will be necessary to continue this source of funding.

Thank you for your interest. If you or other PFMC members have questions, please contact me at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,

Phil Detrich
Field Supervisor, YFWO
Designated Federal Official for the KFMC

cc: Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Steve Thompson, Manager, California Operations Office, USFWS

Table 1. Annual Data Collection Projects Used for Fisheries Management (Not funded for the 2006 spawning run or 2007 out-migration)

Cooperators	Project	Last Year's Funding Level
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata	Mainstem Klamath River Fall Chinook Carcass Survey	$33,765*
Yurok Tribe	Fall Chinook Age Composition Project	$20,624*
Karuk Tribe of California, Yurok Tribe, U.S. Forest Service, Salmon River Restoration Council, Siskiyou Resource Conservation District, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation	Mid-Klamath River Tributaries Fall Chinook Spawner Escapement Surveys	$50,000*
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata	Mainstem Klamath River Fall Chinook Spawning Escapement	$22,561*
California Department of Fish and Game	Bogus Creek Fall Chinook Salmon Escapement	$20,564*
Yurok Tribe	Blue Creek Chinook & Coho Life Cycle Monitoring Project	$9,892
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arcata	Monitoring Klamath River Juvenile Salmonids Springtime Emigrations	$11,655
Salmon River Restoration Council	Salmon River Community "Weak Stocks" Fisheries Assessment and Protection Program	$12,708
	Total	$181,769

* necessary for maintenance of the megatable database

Table 2. Disease Research Supported by Klamath Act Funds During the Past Five Years

Year	Title	Funded Amount
2006	*Manayunkia speciosa*: Life History, Rearing, and Associated Development of *Ceratomyxa shasta*	$55,000
2006	Effects of Flow on Severity of Infection by *Ceratomyxa shasta* in Klamath River Fall Chinook Salmon	$67,275
2006	Disease Monitoring of Juvenile Klamath River Chinook Salmon	$28,000
2006	Experiments on *Ceratomyxa shasta* infection in the Mid-Klamath River	$13,345
2005	Diurnal and Seasonal Abundance of the Infectious Stage of *Ceratomyxa shasta* in the Mid-Klamath River	$9,000
2005	Disease Mortality in Juvenile Klamath River Chinook Salmon	$16,000
2004	Disease Mortality in Juvenile Klamath River Chinook Salmon	$16,000
2004	Effects of Summer River Temperatures on Growth, Immune Competence, and Cellular Stress Biomarkers in Juvenile Klamath River Coho Salmon	$15,000
2003	Abundance of *Ceratomyxa shasta* in Iron Gate Dam Reservoir	$16,400
2002	Effects of Elevated Water Temperature on the Resistance to Ceratomyxosis in the Klamath River Juvenile Steelhead Trout and Chinook Salmon	$16,200
	Total	$252,220

Table 3. Klamath Act funds spent on Restoration Coordination and Planning, and On-the-Ground Habitat Restoration in 2005

Cooperators	Project	Amount Funded
Salmon River Restoration Council	Salmon River Community Restoration Program	$25,000
Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District	Shasta River CRMP Coordinator	$25,000
Karuk Tribe of California	Middle Klamath River Sub-basin Planning	$25,000
Yurok Tribe	Lower Klamath River Sub-basin Coordination and Planning	$25,000
Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District	Nelson Ranch Shasta River Mainstem Refugia Area Fence	$45,577
California Conservation Corps	Mynot Creek Instream Habitat Restoration Project	$20,437
Yurok Tribe	Terwer Creek Riparian Restoration Project	$39,839
California Conservation Corps	North Fork Ah Pah Instream Habitat Enhancement Project	$19,818
	Total	$225,671